

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 01348 051519Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-20 ACDA-12 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01
TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01
STR-07 CEA-01 /139 W
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R 051327Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3471
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 1348

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EIND, ETRD, CH, SW
SUBJECT: SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES TRADE OPPORTUNITIES DURING
CURRENT VISIT TO PRC

1. THE STOCKHOLM PRESS REPORTED ON APRIL 5 THAT FOREIGN
MINISTER KARIN SODER, DURING HER CURRENT EIGHT-DAY OFFICIAL
VISIT IN CHINA, LEARNED THAT CHINA IS EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN
EXPANDING ITS TRADE WITH SWEDEN. CHINA IS SAID TO BE VERY
KEEN ON IMPORTING SWEDISH INDUSTRIAL KNOW-HOW AND TECHNOLOGY,
NOTABLY IN THE FIELDS OF MINING, STEELMAKING, TRANSPORTATION,
AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS. NO CONCRETE DECISIONS HAVE YET BEEN
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MADE REGARDING COMMODITY EXCHANGES, BUT PRC OFFICIALS
REGRETTED THAT IMPORTS FROM SWEDEN HAVE BEEN DECLINING IN
RECENT YEARS. SOME IMPROVEMENT MAY BE EXPECTED TO RESULT FROM
CONTRACTS RECENTLY CONCLUDED WITH VOLVO, SWEDEN'S
LEADING MOTOR VEHICLE AND ENGINE MANUFACTURER.

2. MRS. SODER'S VISIT TO CHINA IS EXPECTED TO BE FOLLOWED

BY A SERIES OF INDUSTRIAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE VISITS IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. CONTACTS PARTICULARLY IN THE FIELDS OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE ARE EXPECTED TO BE INTENSIVE DURING 1978. CHINA IS SAID TO BE PLANNING TO SEND A MILITARY DELEGATION TO SWEDEN TO STUDY THE SWEDISH ARMAMENTS INDUSTRY AND TO LEARN ON THE SPOT WHAT SWEDISH WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY HAS RECENTLY ACCOMPLISHED. MOREOVER, ON THE INVITATION OF THE CHINESE MINISTRY FOR RAILWAYS, A SWEDISH DELEGATION OF RAILWAYMEN WILL BE VISITING CHINA SHORTLY. THAT VISIT WILL BE FOLLOWING IMMEDIATELY BY A SWEDISH INDUSTRIAL DELEGATION COMPRISING SOME 15 TOP-LEVEL CAPTAINS OF INDUSTRY.

3. BESIDES TRADE OPPORTUNITIES, MRS. SODER ALSO DISCUSSED WITH HER OPPOSITE NUMBER, MINISTER HUANG HUA, VARIOUS EUROPEAN AND, PARTICULARLY NORDIC, SECURITY PROBLEMS. THE CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER, ON HIS PART, GAVE A BRIEF SURVEY OF HIS GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS ON THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL TENSION AND PREVAILING CONFLICTS BOTH IN ASIA AND AFRICA. HUANG HUA PARTICULARLY STRESSED THE NEED FOR NORDIC PARTICIPATION IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST WHAT HE TERMED -HEGEMONY."

4. A MORE DETAILED REPORT ON THE SODER VISIT TO CHINA WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT UPON HER RETURN TO SWEDEN.
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